erection of a suitable building at a cost

ated on the hill in rear of the building, is cap-

about 500 hill land suitable for pasturage.

A. McLaughlin, Louis Dampf.

of Alameda county.

G. W. Walts, J. A. Waymire, G. R. Hutchins.

Kilpatrick Post, No. 38-W. T. Simmons.

Phil. Sheridan Post, No. 7-W. F. Ellis.

John A. Dix Post, No. 42-Judson Rice.

Elisworth Post, No. 30-Wyman Murphy.

with the Department bureau of relief and leave

The report of the committee on pensions, as

The committee on memorial to Congress with

reference to the Veterans' Home, as suggested

H. Aiken and S. P. Ford, and after the instal-

lation Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief W. H.

Holmes presented to Past Department Com-

s It was decided to hold a semi-annual session of the Encampment at the Veteraus' Home

during the month of July next, the exact date

Notes of the New York Encampment.

That the limiting the time of application for pen-

efforts with Senators and Congressmen from this

State to perpetuate the pensions to widows and

That this Encompment indorse the Robinson bill

That the Department accumulate a fund for the

he was sound at the time of said admission, and

provide accommodations for 500 more destitute

Assistant Adjutant-General Adlington's re-

the number of suspended members, 1,436. The

gains during the year were 8,834 by muster;

honorable discharge, 821 by transer, 2,368 by

charge. The total membership December 31,

1883, was 26,157. Since then fourteen new

Posts have been organized, swelling the mem-

bership to 26,482. The following Posts have a

membership of over 200 in good standing:

Mansfield 452 members, Koltes 451, Chapin 357,

Rankin 346, Lew Benedict 335, James H. Perry

326, Lew O. Morris 276, Reno 237, O'Rourke

235, Root 218 and Watrous 214. The number

of new Posts organized in 1883 was 121. Posts

numbers 185 and 307 have made no reports

during the year, and it is recommended that

their charters be revoked. There will then

THE POTOMAC.

Alexander's Appointments.

The new officers of the Department of the

Potomac were installed on the 5th inst. by

Past Department Commander Burdett, among

the distinguished guests who were present be-

ing Past Commander-in-Chief Paul Van Der-

voort, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Warner,

Assistant Adjutant-General Pease, of the Da-

partment of Missouri, and Past Commander

S. S. Burdett an elaborate gold Grand Army

badge, with the miniature rank badge attached,

the stars in which are represented by two bean-

and inspectors will be aunounced hereafter.

On the evening of the 11th inst. a banquet

was given at the Arlington Hotel in honor of

the fifteenth anniversary of the organization of

the Department, Past Commander Burdett

presided, and speeches were made by General

R. B. Beath, Commander-in-Chief; Department

Commander Alexander, Maj. Harrison Adrian,

General Van Vliet, General Logan, ex-Governor

A. G. Curtin, of Pennsylvania; Senator Ben

Among the guests were Generals Slocum,

Ayres, Ross, of Maryland, and Stewart, of Penn-

sylvania, Commander Smith, and a delegation

of fifty comrades were present from the Mary-

The Shiloh Reunion.

Comrade C. A. Kuhl, secretary and treasurer

of the Shiloh excursion committee, Pekin, Ill.,

announces that no tickets will be sold after

March 10th, and those who wish to take advan-

tage of the special rates, as well as secure

berths, must make application not later than

that date. It is necessary to the completion of

preparations for the excursion that those who

ntend to take part in it should be booked by

Harrison, Judge Lawrence, and others.

land Department.

March 10th.

remain 445 Posts in good working order with a

for the relief of ex-prisoners of war, as introduced

children of soldiers now drawing pensions.

to be fixed by the Department Commander.

efforts in behalf of the soldiers of the war.

measures to continue this charity.

To incorporate the Department.

ber of the G. A. R. for this purpose.

diers at the State Home at Bath.

presented by R. E. Houghton, was approved.

Summer Post, No. 3-J. R. Lane.

Custer Post, No. 5-M. Robinson.

the matter to the Posts was carried.

they performed their duties.

the following:

by Senator Logan.

Farragut Post, No. 4-A. J. Buckles.

J. A. Garfield Post, No. 34-J. H. Mork.

Colonel Cass Post, No. 46-T. Curren.

ENCAMPMENTS.

Pennsylvania's Splendid Showing of Thirty Thousand Comrades.

Special Correspondence National Tribune.

LANCASTER, PA., Feb. 7, 1884. The eighteenth annual Encampment of the Department of Pennsylvania has met, performed its work in a most thorough manner, and closed this evening. The sessions were barmo-"Old Commoner," Thoddens Stevens, and Major- E. S. Osborne. General Jun. F. Reynolds, both of whom lie

THE COMMANDER'S ADDRESS. The regular business of the session was then begun, the proceedings being opened with prayer by Department Chaplain Juo.W. Sayers. The roll was then called, and the large number who answered to their names showed the unusual interest that was taken in the prospective proceedings. General Osborne then submitted his report, reviewing the work of his administration during the year. In that time he traveled over 9,000 miles and wrote over 2,000 letters, and even then found it impossible to comply with more than one-tenth of the requests to attend military associations' Reunions and Camp-fires. He referred to the fact that Penusylvania is still the banner Department, and could see no good reason why it should not remain at the head of the column. He discouraged the holding of summer Encampments, and referred, in severe terms, to the holding of Camp-fires on Sunday, denouncing all such desecration of the day as unworthy of the Grand Army of the Republic and directly opposed to its principles.

STATE OF THE ORDER.

Reports of Department officers were then | engineer. presented. That of Assistant Adjutant-General Stewart is a very able document, and contains many valuable suggestions. It showed the strength of the Department to be, at the close of the year 1883, 408 Posts, with a total and 5,419 comrades. The number of members of the G. A. E. relieved during the same period was 1,368; others relieved, 557; the amount expended for such purpose being \$49,763.25. Deaths gains during the year and ten are designated as having shown the greatest losses. Post No. 94, Philadelphia, with 624 comrades, is the \$30,000. Fifty old soldiers, many of whom are address, from which we quote as follows: members of the Grand Army of the Republic, contracted in the service, are unable to carn a livelihood, have been secured admittance to the National Home for disabled volunter soltions for charter were signed by at least twentyfive old soldiers who had never been members of the Grand Army. The statement of work

FINANCES. The report of Assistant Quartermaster-General Smith D. Cozens gives the following statement of the financial condition of the Department: Balance on hand January 26, 1883, \$3.259.35; received from sales of supplies and make a better showing. rent 7,977.19; received from Posts for per capita tax, \$5,776.19; total receipts 17,012.67. Expended, as perabstracts and vouchers approved, \$12,726.77. Balance on hand \$4,225,90. The beaviest expenditure was for supplies and printing and the relief of eighty-one persons.

Department Chaplain Sayers, Committee on | is \$6,075.54; general fund, \$9,842.98, which shows Soldiers' Orphans' Schools of which Chaplain that one of the greatest principles of our Order is flavers was chairman). Judge-Advocate Willis lived up to to the letter. Many of the Posts have held Sayers was chairman), Judge-Advocate Wilis and Chief Mustering Officer Kennedy, all of chester, Nachua, Dover, Great Falls, Rochester, Which presented a highly favorable showing Plymouth, Milford, Laconia, and Lake Village, for for the year, were also read. From the report | the benefit of the relief funds, all of which have of Department Inspector Thomas G. Sample, it | met with great success, the citizens doing all in appears that there are but twenty Posts that | their power to aid them. Among the recommendations contained in the report of the Council of Administration is one the Department for Grand Army day demon-

The next business in order was the election

Large-A. M. K. Storrie, Post 191. Representatives-Wm. H. Armstrong, Post

The whole number of votes cast for Com- having fourteen subordinate bodies connected mander was 637, of which Dyer received 409; with it. Chalmers, Post No. 3, 218; Wagner, Post No. |

87, 8; rejected, 2. almshouses in the State, or who have died and | Baldwin of Lebanon. been buried from such places; on the appoint- In the evening the annual Camp-fire was ant quartermaster-general. reported desertions, it appearing that many | and the Encampment adjourned sine dic. thousands who are reported as deserters were not so in fact; indorsing the education of Indian children, leaving the mode to the judgment of those having charge of the educational

institutions of the land. Making any recommendations relative to Sons | to 230, and the membership from 6,524 to 15,of Veterans at this time; making any change | 447.

The report was thoroughly discussed, section

ment adjourned sine die, after two days' earnest, | Trip, Fullerton, Meredith and Meserva. profitable work.

SECTORES OF NEW OFFICERS. Comrade F. H. Dyer, of Post No. 120, Department Commander, was born in Charleston, S. nious, the business was more than usually im- | C., July 4, 1849. When about six years of age periant, and the character of the material of his parents removed to Connecticut, where which the Encampment was composed was of a | Comrade Dyer collisted, at Hartford, as a drumhigher grade than ever before. In a few words, | mer in company H, 7th regiment, Connecticut the eighteenth Encampment was, in the judg- | volunteers, serving nutil August 20, 1865, when | ment of those who had attended many pre- be was mustered out with his regiment. He vious ones, the best the Department ever held. | joined Post No. 2, G. A. R., in Hartford, Conn., Scortly after 10 o'clock yesterday morning in 1867. Removing to Pennsylvania he joined Department Commander Osborne and staff, es- Post No. SS, of Alleghany City, and was aftercorrect by Posts 81 and 405, of Lancaster, with | wards transferred to Post No. 129, of Washingn fine band of music, left the Stevens House, ton. He was commander of the latter Post for where headquarters had been established, and three successive years, was twice elected repproceeded directly to Mannercher Hall, where | resentative to the National Encamement, and the greater part of the representatives had al- | was made Senior Vice Department Commander ready assembled. Ascending to the stage, which in 1879. He has been present at the organizawas set with a woodland scene, Commander | tion of thirty-two Posts, a majority of which Osborne called the comrades to order, and in- he mustered in. He has also visited Posts in treanced Major A. C. Reicanil, who delivered | nearly every county in the State. He was a an address of welcome which was both eloquent | candidate for Department Commander last and witty. Beferences in his speech to the year at Wilkesbarre, but was defeated by Gen.

Senior Vice Department Commander Austin guietly resting near by, were received with the | Curtin, Post No. 261, was born in Centre county, | warmest enthusiasm, while his invitation to Pa., March 19, 1835, and received the common wade around through the mud and see the school education of the time, and entered into town, and his premise that the station house, the iron business; enlisted in company D, 45th | 165, and the total membership from 4,014 to The the temple of Janus in times of peace, regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, August 15, 6,183. who this be closed for three days, or during the 1861; was made lieutenant-colonel of the 148th racket, mised shouts of appreciative laughter. regiment in 1862; served on the staff of Gen. Commander Osborne replied to the address in | Burnside and other officers, and was mustered ont of service October 20, 1864. He entered the Grand Army as a charter member of Gregg the organization of Potter Post, No. 261, he became a charter member, and has been three position he now holds. He is also an aid-decamp on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, kota City. and held the same position on the staff of Department Commander Osborne. He is one of the most energetic workers in the Department, and is deservedly popular among his comrades.

Junior Vice Department Commander Daniel Caldwell, Post No. 19, was born in Montgomery county June 1, 1843; enlisted August 28, 1802, in the 13th regiment, Pennsylvania cavalry volunteers, as private, at the age of nineteen; was promoted from lifth sergeant, company H. to first lieutenant in company E, and remained in service until the regiment was mustered out of service. He received a medal of honor from Congress and a forlough of twenty-five days for conspicuous gallantry. He entered the Grand Army as a member of Fred Taylor Post, No. 19, in March, 1869, in which he has served three terms as officer of the day and one term as com-

membership in good standing of 30,955, being a that appointment, are too well and favorably tance he was forced to make on foot, and did net gain since December 31, 1882, of 103 Posts | known by their comrades throughout the De- | so in forty hours, arriving at the fort July 30,

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

231. Twenty Posts receive special mention for | A Gain of Ten Posts - Department Commander Linehan Re-elected. The seventeenth annual Encampment of the Department of New Hampshire opened at largest, and Post No. 121, of Girardville, is the | Eagle Hall, Concord, on the 6th inst. There smallest, having but nine comrades in good | was a very large attendance, every one of the standing. There are ten colored Posts, three sixty-eighth Posts in the Department being of which are located in Philadelphia. The represented. After the assembly had been wealthiest Post is No. 140, of Shamokin, which | called to order, Commander Linehan welcomed reports owning property to the amount of the delegates, and then delivered his annual

On assuming the duties of Commander of this but who, through wounds received or disease | Department, I found that the ground had been so thoroughly worked over by my predecessors that the prospect for an increased membership was not very flattering, but by the active co-operation of the diers. With but three exceptions all applica- rades throughout the State, I am enabled to report that since the date of our last Encampment ten new Posts have been instatuted, two old ones reorganized, with a net gain of 476 commides, making our membership on January 1, 4861, 3,548, as done on Memorial Day shows that the interest against 3,072 per report of Encampment of 1883, and in its observance is increasing. to the National Encampment for the year 1884. We number over 1 per cent, of our State population, which was, according to the last census, about 346, 600, and have, therefore, good reason to congratulate ourselves that in this grand movement New Hampshire is not in the year, as it is doubtful if there is another Department in the country that can

> The entire gain during the year was 1,145, loss 669. Suspension was the principal cause of the loss, and I would earnestly suggest to the several Posts that in eases where comrades are unable to pay their does, that they be abated and another trial given. Quartermasters ought to be prompt in collecting when assessments are due. If this were done suspensious would be more rare.

The amount paid out for relief during the year The reports of Medical Director Ferguson, was \$3,185,23. The balance of relief fund on hand

As you will see by the report of the Assistant pay weekly benefits in case of sickness; the Quartermaster-General, the Department expenses sums paid by these do not exceed five dollars for the past year have been unusually heavy, owing per week, and run as low as two dollars, mainly to the great distance at which the National Encampment was beld. There has also been a larg ecorrespondence, requiring considerable outlay for postage, stationery, &c., but despite these exprohibiting the expenditure of any funds of traordinary expenses, all bills incurred by this adand of \$399.26 to the credit of the Department.

Commander Lineban, in feeling language. of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted | referred to the fact that during the past year as follows: Department Commander, F. H. the Department of New Hampshire had lost Dyor, Post 120, Washington; Senior Vice De- thirty members by death-among them Majorpartment Commander, Austin Curtin, Post 261, | General D. Savage, of the 12th New Hampshire Middleburg; Junior Vice Department Com- - and touchingly alluded to the serious illness mander, Daniel Caldwell, Post 9, Philadelphia; of Past Department Commander George Bow-Medical Director, J. B. Davis, Post 146; De- ers, of Nashua. In regard to the Woman's partment Chaplain, John W. Sayers, Post 16. Relief Corps he said that it had done a great Council of Administration, E. G. Sellers, Post deal of good, had proved itself an invaluable 8; W. C. Johnson, Post 12; J. T. Long, Post auxiliary to Posts where branches are institut-51; J. T. Hunter, Post 3, and L. W. Shengle, ed, and he trested that when its principles | Appointation Post, No. 50; C. G. Harris, George were more fully understood that Corps would | H. Thomas Post, No. 2; A. W. Sefton, Sumner | The New Officers Installed - Department Commander Representative to National Encampment at | be established in every locality where a Post |

exists. The condition of the Posts in the Depart-24; Wm. M. Bartram, Post 400; S. R. Bachtell, | ment be characterized as excellent; not one of Post 2; O.F. Benson, Post 225; T. D. Cunning- | the sixty-eight Posts had failed to forward the ham, Post 137; A. M. Clarke, Post 277; B. C. per capita tax, and the Department of New Christy, Post 88; J. F. Denniston, Post 119; Hampshire, financially or otherwise, had never jutant-General, showed a net gain during the Rev. J. B. French, Post 154; E. P. Gould, Post | been in a better condition than at present.

67; D. S. Gilger, Post 140; Jos. Gregson, Post | At the conclusion of the Commander's address | 32; Wesley Price, Post 80; Richard Rahn, Post | that 270 delegates were present.

23; A. C. Reineshi, Post 84; Moses Venle, Post A communication was received from the 2; N. G. Wilson, Post 9; S. V. Commander A. | Ladies' Relief Corps of the State showing that | ver presented an itemized report of the receipts the organization is in a prosperous condition,

The election of officers being then in order. Department Commander John C. Linehan, of ming of the year, making a total of \$3,988,10. A very large number of communications and Penacook, was unanimously re-elected, and the The disbursements were \$3,439.68, leaving a resolutions from Posts and individual comrades | following comrades chosen for the other offices were received and referred to the committee | in the Department: Senior Vice Commander, | on resolutions, who devoted the greater part of | Marcus M. Collis, of Portsmouth; Junior Vicelast night to their consideration. The commit- Commander, George Farr, of Littleton; Meditee's report is very elaborate, the following cal Director, Dr. J. C. Eastman, of Hampstead; the year was \$4.045.43; since received, being the substance: Favorably on the estab- Chaplain, Rev. Elijah S. Wilkins, of Penacook. lishment of a Pennsylvania home for indigent | Council of Administration, O. C. Wyatt of | during year by Posts, \$16,318.63. Relief fund, soldiers and eaflors; on the passage of a mortuary Northfield, A. S. Eaton of Nashau, E. B. Huse, statute for the burial of all indigent soldiers, Harry Clifton of Manchester, J. B. Stone. Delesailors, and marines who are residents of the gates to the National Encampment, Henry State at the time of death; on the organization | Churchill of Concord, H. A. Redfield of Dover, known as the G. A. R. Veterans' Rights Union; Charles H. Reed of Mauchester, Charles A. upon increasing the salary of the Assistant Ad- | Hale of Hollis, Charles E. Buzzell of Laconia; jutant-General to \$1,800 per annum; providing Alternates, T. B. Crowley of Nashua, F. D. a report giving names, ages, company, and reg- Batchelder of Concord, T. H. Edgerly of Great | whatever place he may in his discretion deteriment of all soldiers who are now inmates of Falls, D. F. Healy of Manchester, and O. W.

ment of a staff officer to act as historian of the held. An elegant, banquet was provided for G. A. R., Department of Pennsylvania, and the occasion, at which 500 guests sat down, calling for statistical information to correct er- after which the newly-elected officers were rors in Bates' history, especially in cases of installed, the unfinished business disposed of, each twenty-five members or fraction over

Notes of the Illinois Encampment. The report of Assistant Adjutant-General Bennett, read at the late Department Encampment of Illinois, shows that during the past The following were reported unfavorably: | year the number of Posts increased from 128 | Napa county.

in rules and regulations as to eligibility of can- The following is a list of the members of the the Encampment of 1881 the project was placed cular to survivors of rebel prisons, setting forth didates for admission into the Order, who had borne arms, voluntarily or involuntarily, against the Government; resolution in favor ministration, Enos Bond (colored), Chicago; in the hands of a directory, consisting of twenty to the need of organization, and giving the content to the National Encampment: Council of Adstitution of the association as well as the text of the Robinson bill.

of issuing land warrants to soldiers of the late | W. C. Carmichael, Kirkwood; W. H. Cheno- | war. The amount of subscriptions turned over weth, Chicago; P. S. Post, Galesburg, and Rich- to this directory was \$18,315.16, and subsequent ard Rowett, Quincy. Delegates to the National | contributions brought up the total to \$33,801.64. | Distinguished Visiters-A New Soldiers' Homeby section, and passed in the form in which it | Encampment, Comrades J. G. Everest, John | Out of this fund the sum of \$17,750 was excame from the committee. After some further | Stephens, E. H. Miner, W. F. Calhoun, F. H. | pended in the purchase of a tract of 900 acres | Special Correspondence National Tribune. business of a routine character the selection of Marsh, W. W. Berry, E. E. Burt, R. F. Wilson, near Yountville, Napa county, and in March, the place for holding the next Encampment | F. N. Wright, T. W. Cole, J. A. McClernand, 1883, a contract was entered into for the was taken up and resulted in the choice, by R. W. McClaughrey, J. A. Edminson, A. D. Reed, J. T. Harrold and J. A. Sexton. The Al- of \$15,700. This building was completed the almost unanimous vote, of Harrisburg.

Reed, J. T. Harrold and J. A. Sexton. The Allowing August. It is described as an impostment of Kansas City;

Reed, J. T. Harrold and J. A. Sexton. The Allowing August. It is described as an impostment of Kansas City; Department Commander Chill W. Hazard in a Pierce, January, Donahue, Jackson, Herrick, very effective manner, after which the Encamp- | Cantwell, Barnes, Qualman, Koch, Carmichael, Among the resolutions adopted were those favoring the pensioning all ex-soldiers at the

> pension agencies. speakers being General John A. McClernand, | corners of the building. The reservoir, situ- | diers' Home west of the Mississippi River. General R. J. Oglesby, Governor Hamilton,

It is worthy of mention that directly over the stage of the tabernacle in which the Envalley, about as much more gently rolling, and Peach Bottom, York county. There is also campment was held was hung a large steel engraving of Major Stephenson, the founder of the organization, who came to Decatur from | the directory was without means to open it or Springfield and mustered in the first Post in provide for the support of those who were entiand was the first charter issued in America.

NEBRASKA.

Commander.

The report of Assistant Adjutant-General Cook, read at the late Nebraska Department Encampment, shows that during the past year the number of Posts has increased from 110 to

The following is a full list of the officers elected for the ensuing year: Commander, H. E. Palmer, Post No. 45, Plattsmouth; Senior Vice Commander, T. S. Clarkson, Post No. 34, Schuyler; Junior Vice Commander, A. V. Cole, Post, No. 52, in June, 1879. In July, 1882, on Post No. 81, Juniata; Chaplain, Rev. J. C. Lewis, McPherson Post, No. 4, Fremont; Medical Director, M. D. Stone, Wahoo; A. A. G., Brad P. successive times elected its commander, which | Cook, David City; A. Q. M. G., N. G. Franklin, Lincoln; Judge Advocate, J. F. Warner, Da-Council of Administration-J. D. Davis,

Wahoo; Miles Warren, Belwood; B. H. Steele, Beaver Crossing; E. C. Parkinson, Seward; E. C. Calkins, Kearney. Delegate at Large to National Encampment

-John Hammond, Columbus. Alternate-Robert Hollingsworth, Nelson. Delegates to National Encampment-N. Montgomery, Lincoln; J. O. West, Grand Island; L. W. Osborn, Blair; G. E. Whitman, Oxford; F. E. Brown, Syracuse; A. Reis, North Platte. Alternates-G. M. O'Brien, Omaha; C. C. White, Valparaise; J. A. Force, St. Paul; B. F. Rawalt, Fairfield; H. S. Hotchkiss, Lincoln;

M. R. Risdan, Omaha, The new Department Commander, Capt. H. E. Palmer, who is now a large grain shipper at Plattsmouth, Neb., has a fine military record. mander. Comrade Caldwell is by occupation an | When the war broke out he was engaged in mining in the West. His companions joined the Assistant Adjutant-General Thomas J. Stew- Confederate army, but young Palmer declared art, of Post No. 11, who has been appointed to that he was "from Ohio" and would "fight that position for the third successive time, and for the stars and stripes," and forthwith started Assistant Quartermaster-General H. G. Wil- for Leavenworth, Kan., 800 miles away, to enliams, who has for the second time received list. One hundred and thirty miles of the dispartment to need any extended notice. "160." | 1861; he enlisted the next day as a private, and in course of time, after several transfers, became commissary sergeant of the 4th Kansas infantry, but on the consolidation of that regiment with the 3d, was mustered out. Nothing daunted, however, he went to work in April, 1862, and raised company A, 11th Kansas in-

fantry, receiving a commission as second lieutenant. He participated in the battles of Maysville, Cane Hill, Boston Mountain, Prairie Grove and Van Euren, no other officer being present for duty until December 31, 1862, when he was promoted first lieutenant; February 20, 1863, to be captain of same company. On June following, his regiment was ordered to St. Louis. en route to Sherman's army, but, owing to the depredations of guerrillas, was turned to Western Missouri, and then, by order of the Secretary of War, mounted and formally changed to 11th Kansas cavalry. For over a year Capt. Palmer fought Quantrell, and at the Lawrence raid was the only commander who had the pleasure of punishing the murderous villains. Captain Palmer was married September 23, 1863, to Miss Bettie Houck, of Westport, Mo., a blood relative of General R. E. Lee. This marriage, a most happy one, was severed by death, which took both mother and child, February 18 and 27, 1865. In January, 1865, Capt. Palmer was ordered to Fort Riley, Kansas, and in June, 1865, was assigned to duty on the staff of Gen. P. E. Conner, as acting assistant adjutant-general of the district of the Plains, 17,000 troops in the district; 2,500 were engaged in guarding the overland mail line. In September and October, same year, he took part in the Powder River expedition, and was | \$50,000, or whatever amount may be necessary, to present at the several Indian battles in the Big Horn country, including the Tongue River fight, where 145 men, Indians and whites, were killed, and the troopers were compelled to ride

tered out of service November 2, 1865, by reason of expiration of term. CALIFORNIA.

125 miles without food or rest. He was mus-

The New Department Officers-The Veterans' Home

At the seventeen annual Encampment of the Department of California, held at San Franciseo on the 23d, 24th, 25th, and 26th ults., the following officers were elected for the ensuing For Department Commander-Jas. M. Davis,

of Lincoln Post, No. 1, San Francisco. Senior Vice Department Commander-A. G. Bennett, of John A. Dix Post, No. 42, San Jose. Junior Vice Department Commander-H. A. Burnett, of Sumner Post, No. 3, Sacramento. Department Medical Director-Colonel E. P. Wood, Kilpatrick Post, No. 38, St. Helena. Department Chaplain-Rev. T. K. Noble, Lincoln Post, No. 1.

Department Council of Administration-Andrew Hollywood, Lyon Post, No. 8; J. C. year \$22,446.47. Bolles, Lincoln Post, No. 1; W. R. Thomas,

Delegates to the National Encampment-Stewart M. Taylor (at large), H. C. Dibble, Rev. A. S. Fiske, L. B. Edwards; Alternates-E. S. Salomon, R. M. Apgar, John Lynch.

The report of Horace Wilson, Assistant Adyear in the Department of two Posts and 741 members. The amount expended by Posts for 5; R. S. Gamble, Post 60; W. Hays Grier, Post the reports of Assistant Adjutant-General relief during the year was \$1,526, relieving Wilson, of Fredonia, N. Y. Comrade James W. 118; John Hoerr, Post 41; Frank Hall, Post 94; H. B. Hackett, Post 51; Wm. H. Lapius, Inspector Buzzell, Judge-Advocate Shurtleff, members of the Order, and twenty were not partment, presented Department Commander Post 37; J. R. McCauley, Post 53; Hugh Me. Chief Mustering Officer Collis, Chaplain Mc. members. The Department Bureau of Relief Keever, Post 114; E. McLean, Post 62; George | Kinney, and Medical Director Carbee were | paid out \$690.25 for relief of persons, of whom J. E. Miller, Post 19; D. P. Meaney, Post 35; adopted and referred to committees. The re- six were members, receiving \$131.25, and James S. Negley, Post 3; F. K. Patterson, Post | port of the committee on credentials showed | twenty-nine not members of the Order received

> Assistant Quartermaster-General O. B. Culand disbursements during the year, which shows that the amount received by the Quartermaster-General during the year in the Department was \$3,179; on hand, \$800.15 at beginbalance of \$548.51 on hand in all funds of the Department-general, relief and burial. His report also shows that the balance on hand in Posts in the general fund at the beginning of \$16,783,51; total, \$20,828.94; disbursements balance on hand, \$1,208.83; received during

> year, \$1,833.87; total, \$3,042.70; disbursements, \$1,148.02; balance on hand, \$1,894.68. The by-laws of the Department Encampment were so changed that the Department Commander for the time being shall be allowed to fix the headquarters of the Department at mine, a bureau of supplies being established at San Francisco under charge of an acting assist-

A rule was adopted permanently fixing the representation to the annual sessions of the Department Encampment at one delegate for twelve, instead of fixing at each session the representation for the next succeeding annual Encampment.

The principal business that engaged the attention of the Department was the condition of the proposed Veterans' Home at Yountville, The movement for the establishment of this

Illinois State Prisoners' Association. The Illinois State Association of Union Ex-Prisoners of War-W. W. Lowdermilk, Au-Home was inaugurated some years age, and at burn, president-has just issued a stirring cirAT HEADQUARTERS.

New Pennsylvania Posts.

Риплания, Feb. 12, 1884. On Saturday afternoon quite a distinguished party of comrades registered their names at | ing officers were elected: Commander, Tuna headquarters, consisting of Senior Vice Com- Wright; S. V. C., Edwin Cole; J. V. C., John pay their respects to Commander-in-Chief ing structure of two stories, containing, on the | Department Commander H. E. Palmer, of | Weaver; Chaplain, Bernard Bradfield; Surg., ground floor, offices, assembly and reading Plattsmouth, Ncb.; Theo. Wiseman, Assistant William H. Ford; Q. M., James P. Burnett; room, and large dining room. On the upper Inspector-in-Chief, Lawrence, Kan.; Albion P. Adj't, Alonzo Marshall; S. M., John D. Juell; floor are chambers for the officers and large Pease, Assistant Adjutant-General, Department Q. M. S., Elisha R. Olvey. rooms capable, it is thought, of accommodating of Missouri, and Juo. Lindt, commander, Post age of sixty, and opposing the abolishment of sixty or seventy-five old soldiers. The build- No. 29, Council Bluffs, Iowa. These comrades ing is supplied throughout with water, and were on their way home from Washington, D. The Camp-fire held in connection with the large pipes suitable for fire-hose attachment | C., where they had spent several days on busi-Encampment was a great success, among the extend from the ground to the roof at the four ness connected with the establishment of a Sol-Two more applications for charters for Posts Commander-in-Chief Beath and General J. C. able of holding 50,000 gallons, and is fed by two have been received at Department Headquarsprings which give 7,000 gallons daily. There | ters-one, No. 411, to be located at Cochranton, some talk of establishing a Post at Mechanics-On the completion of the Home, however, | ville, Cumberland county.

Post No. 409, located at Abbottstown, Adams county, was mustered on the 5th inst. by Com-Decatur. The charter is now in possession of thed to admission, and as no more money could rade P. H. Bittinger, commander of Post No. Dunham Post, of Decatur. It is dated April be raised, the members of the association de- 99, assisted by the officers and twenty-two com- O. G., N. V. McDowell; Adj't, R. B. Plotts; S. 6, 1866, the anniversary of the battle of Shiloh, cided to resign in a body. Accordingly, their rades of that Post. The following officers were M., H. C. Shepard; Q. M. S., C. T. Pope. resignations were presented to the Encamp- installed: Commander, Geo. H. Baker; S. V. ment, and by the latter accepted, and on the | C., C. W. Johnston; J. V. C., Geo. S. Kehm; 25th inst. the delegates paid a visit to the Adj't, Sam'l Kinnerman; Q. M., Jno. Kinner-Home to examine its condition for themselves. man; Chaplain, Rev. S. P. Orwig; O. D., Thos. Alexander; Surgeon, T. T. Minor; Chaplain, The Gains During the Year-Sketch of the New As a result of their deliberation it was deter- McClain; O. G., Cornelius Shue; S.M., Daniel As a result of their deliberation it was deter-mined on the last day of the Encampment to memorialize Congress for an appropriation to memorialize Congress for an appropriation to new Post starts with twenty-six charter memfurnish and maintain the Home, and the fol- bers, and will meet on the first and third Satlowing comrades were elected as a new direc- urdays in the month.

The reappointment of Comrade Thomas J. Lincoln Post, No. 1-H. T. Hobbert, James Stewart as Assistant Adjutant-General and of M. Davis, Department Commander-elect; M. Comrade H. G. Williams as Assistant Quartermaster-General meets with universal approval. George H. Thomas Post, No. 2-S. M. Taylor, They are both known throughout the Department as thorough workers.

I have been requested to give notice through General Meade Post, No. 42-W. J. Mallady. the columns of THE TRIBUNE that the sixth annual Reunion of the 1st New York mounted Lyon Post, No. 8-P. H. McGrew and J. G. rifles will be held at the Knickerbocker man-Edwards, on recommendation of the four Pests sion, on Forty-fifth street, New York city, on February 19. Generals Charles C. Dodge, E. V. Sumner, Colonels B. F. Onderdonk and E. A. Hamilton will be present, and all former members of the regiment have a cordial invitation to be there.

In a communication from the Commanderin-Chief, read at the Pennsylvania Encampment, on the morning of the second day's ses-After a warm discussion a motion to do away | sion, the following passage occurs: "There is one matter that seems to me of the first importance for action at this time; that is, the immediate relief of old soldiers and sailors who are now in our almshouses. Let them be gathered up by the Grand Army and be permitted to live with old comrades, and when they die let by General W. S. Resecrans, were requested to it be where their eyes may see the old flag, prepare the memorial as soon as practicable and with the knowledge that they are not paupers, refer it to the Council of Administration for but wards of a grateful State. No expensive or costly buildings are needed for this; the The thanks of the Encampment was, on moproject can be carried through with comparation, given the retiring members of the Veter- tively small expence, and will be untold relief A Bill to authorize the location of a branch home ans' Home Association for the manner in which to many hundreds of our comrades, as well as to Posts generally, on whom the burden of support in so many cases now falls." A com-Vice Commander-in-Chief Walter H. Holmes, | mittee of five was appointed by the Departassisted by Post Department Commanders W. ment Commander to give the matter the careful consideration it deserves. Comrade Wesley Price of Post 80 has the

honor of being the first member of a colored mander Staples an elegant past commander's Post who has been elected a representative to Nebraska; and that the same shall not be located on question whatever as to amending the act rethe National Encampment, and his comrades a tract of land less than three hundred and twenty ferred to, so as to open the door to every man feel justly proud of the compliment paid them.

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

During the past week THE TRIBUNE has sent Amons the resolutions adopted by the recent blank applications, by request, to the following: Clinton V. B. Reeder, Gilroy, Cal; Wm. Dennell, Hancock, Md.; Joseph S. Turner, home; that said building or buildings shall be Department Encampment of New York, were | ing: Clinton V. B. Reeder, Gilroy, Cal; Wm. Resolved, That the thanks of this Encampment Bremen, Ohio; Harrison Hay, Spangle, Wash. | completed at as early a day as possible be tendered to Senators Logan and Ingalls for their | Terr'y; L. C. Baker, Weston, N. Y.; F. C. Ames, Grand Gorge, N. Y.; John W. Rogers, That the home and school for soldiers and sail-Forksville, Pa.; A. Phillips, Oscoda, Mich, ment of the grounds of said branch home. ors' children in New York, being about to be closed making a total of 177 since the beginning of for the want of support, that this Department take the present administration.

THE TRIBUNE has also recently forwarded ions to June 30, 1880, by Congress, be extended to | blank petitions for the establishment of Woman's Relief Corps to Robert G. Scott, Northum- for Disabled Volunteers Soldiers. That the incoming Department officers use their | berland, Pa.; E. R. Sherman, Kendall Creek, Pa., and R. A. Chandler, Smith Centre, Kan.

A correspondent at Northumberland, Pa., writes us that Cantain James Taggart Post, No. 350, of Northumberland, Pa., which was mustered on the 20th of June last with forty-three charter members, has since added twenty-two recruits to its ranks. We also have from the relief of the widows and orphans of soldiers of this same source the following list of its newly-State, and that five cents be assessed on each mem-That this Encampment memorialize Congress to S. V. C., Ed. K. Bright; J. V. C., Robt. G. Scott; admitted fact. enact by statute that the admission of a soldier into Q. M., Wm. H. Morgan; Surgeon, Wm. B. the army be considered prima facie evidence that Stoner; Chaplain, Joseph Wertz; Adj't, L. L. Haas; O. D., Milton McPherson; O. G., J. I. that disability at date of discharge shall be taken as Willard; Q. M. S., John McClain; S. M., Chas. | State of Kansas, a resolutionsufficient evidence that such disability was acquired A. McGregor; I. S., Charles Vogel; O. S., Solo-That the Legislature be asked to appropriate | mon Willard.

"Modoc," Oakland, Cal., writes us that the public installation of Appomattox Post, No. 50, of that place, took place recently, and sends us port shows that the number of members in the following list of officers: Commander, W. prepared the accompanying bill. good standing December 31, 1882, was 18,606; R. Thomas (re-elected); S. V. C., W. E. Norris (re-elected); J. V. C., Thomas Newman; Q. M., U. S. Douglas (re-elected); Chaplain, J. C. The losses were 278 by death, eighty-five by elected); O. D., J. P. Montague; O. G., L. S. more than three hundred thousand volunteer sol-Parritt; Adi't, J. J. Hambright; S. M., R. Patsuspension, and thirty by dishonorable dis- tleton (re-elected); Q. M. S., W. O. Brien.

We are indebted to Comrade Jesse Jeffery, North Monmouth, Me., for the following list of | officers of Albert H. Frost Post, No. 21, recently installed by Assistant Adjutant-General Jeffery; Surgeon, Everett Lindsay; Chaplain, H. Z. Murch; O. D., F. J. Davis; O. G., M. N. jects of charity. Freeman; Q. M., G. W. Wood; Adj't, C. E. Wing; S. M., A. G. H. Wood; Q. M. S., Frank- forsaken or their children begging bread. lin Wood.

General Orders, No. 1, issued on the 2d inst. at New York, announce that Comrade I. M. total membership of 25,157, an average of about | Hedges has assumed the duties of Department fifty-nine to each Post of the Department, Commander; that headquarters will be estab-There was expended for charity during the lished in New York, and that Comrade George B. Squires, of Post 327, Brooklyn, is appointed Assistant Adjutant-General. Comrade Hedges also calls attention to the fact that Assistant Quartermaster-General Milton H. Smith turned over all the funds in his possession, viz., \$4,-942.49, on the 1st inst.

We are informed by Comrade George C. James, Rockport, W. Va., that Ellsworth Post No. 19, of that place, has elected the following officers to serve for this year: Commander, George C. James; S. V. C., J. E. Dve; J. V. C., working order, increasing in numbers daily.

Comrade George C. Jenkins, Washington C. H., Ohio, writes us that Morris McMillian Post, No. 85, was mustered at Wilmington, Ohio, re-Commander Alexander announced the fol- cently, with thirty-five charter members and from year to year, and it is not probable that the lowing appointments: C. H. Ingram, Assistant | the following officers: Commander, Elias Har-Adjutant-General, Post No. 8; Assistant Q. M. lan; S. V. C., Amos Huffman; J. V. C., E. B. General, A. J. Gunning; Inspector, Comrade Howland; Adj't, Frank Fornshell; Q. M., M. Mathews, Post No. 5; Chief Mustering Officer, J. Grady; Surgeon, R. W. Jones; Chaplain, D. Comrade O'Connor, Post No. 1; Judge Advo- A. Lamb; O. D., Melville Hays; O. G., A. E. cate, Fred Mack, Post No. 3. The new aids | Crumley; S. M., Frank Marble; Q. M. S., William Burge:

The committee on the address of retiring Department Commander E. K. Stimson, of Colorado, recommended the adoption of the report and address, and also that a resolution of thanks to Comrade Stimson be adopted by the Encampment in recogition of the able and conscientious manner in which he has performed the duties of Department Commander.

We have received the initial General Order

of the recently re-elected Commander of the

Department of Wisconsin, Philip Cheek, Jr., Baraboo, in which he announces his assumption of command, and the following appoint-Comrades J. H. Whitney, of Post No. 9, Barabeo, Assistant Adjutant-General; Herman Albrecht, Post No. 9, Baraboo, Assistant Quartermaster-

General; George W. Bird, Post No. 26, Jefferson, Judge Advocate; William S. Stanley, Jr., Post No. 1, Milwaukee, Inspector; C. N. Davis, Post No. 86, Merrillan, Chief Mustering officer. The following is a list of the officers of Post No. 8, of Litchfield, Ky., sent us by Comrade Hardin Stevenson, of that place: Commander, D. O'Riley; S. V. C., I. C. Whinehel; J. V. C.,

A. McClure. General Orders, No. 1, issued at Baltimore, Md., on the 24th ult., announce the assumption of the duties of Commander of the Department of the duties of Commander of the Department of Maryland by Comrade Frank M. Smith, and with the members, have been kindly received and also the appointment to the office of Assistant

Comrade J. T. Richter, Williamsburg, Ind., informs us that Comrade N. H. Richter, assisted by comrades from Mart Ballenger Post, mustered Aaron Canby Post, No. 283, at Economy, Ind., on the 23d ult., and that the follow-W. Olvey; O. D., John Conley; O. G., Jonathan

Comrade H. T. Ferguson, Story City, Iowa, informs us that Jason D. Ferguson Post, No. 31, was mustered on the 7th ult., and that the following officers were chosen: Commander, I. L. Smith; S. V. C., O. W. Wilson; J. V. C., now avail myself of the opportunity to briefly Guilf Mullen; Adj't, M. C. Ailen; Q. M., F. give you my views upon the questions pro-D. Thompson; Surg., Dr. P. W. Farrar; Chaplain, Rev. A. K. Bone; O. D., C. W. Wood; O. G., H. H. Boyes; S. M., A. W. Davis; Q. M. S., George Childs.

The following is a list of the new officers of Stoddard Post, of Worthington, Minn .: Commander, L. M. Lange; S. V. C., R. R. Miller; J. V. C., Azom Forbes; Surgeon, R. D. Barber; Q. M., J. F. Humiston; O. D., C. P. Shepard Stevens Post, of Seattle, W. T., has the fol-

lowing officers for the ensuing year: Commander, Isaac H. Griswold; S. V. C., W. N.

Comrade B. B. Adams, Gallatin, Mo., writes us that Lewis Post, No. 104, of that place, which was organized in October last, has a to do; that is, pass a law equalizing bounties. membership of 54 and 20 applications on file. Lincoln Post, No. 1, of San Francisco, Cal. has 411 members in good standing, with thir-teen applications in hand for membershp.

The annual Encampment of the Department of West Virginia will be held at Parkersburg of what is so justly the due of the men who on the 25th inst.

OUR WESTERN VETERANS. just deserts. Congress Asked to Establish a Soldiers' Home West of the Mississippi.

As stated in our last issue, the committee created at the seventeenth Encampment of the Grand Army to urge upon Congress the establishment of a soldiers' home west of the Mississippi River arrived in Washington several days ago, and it has lost no time in bringing the subject to the attention of both Houses. The members of the committee had satisfactory interviews with leading Senators and Representatives and left nothing undone that was calculated to insure the speedy adoption of the legislation desired. The bill to establish the proposed home, as prepared by the committee -introduced in the Senate by Mr. Allison, of Iowa, and in the House by Pennsylvania's old war governor, "Andy" Curtin-is as follows: for disabled volunteer soldiers in either the State of Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota,

Missouri, or Nebraska, sentatives of the United States of America in Congress | binding force upon the Government until the assembled. That the board of managers of the Home last veteran shall have been summoned to his for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers are hereby authorized and directed to locate a branch of the home at some suitable point in either the State of Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, or fore, of the opinion that there should be no

acres in extent. Section 2. That said branch home shall be located and the ground purchased by said board of managers within three months, or as soon thereafter as practicable, from the approval of this act. See, 3. That within six months, or as soon thereafter as practicable, from the approval of this act, the said board of managers shall commence the

Sec. 4. That the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated for the rposes hereinbefore mentioned and the improve-Sec. 5. That all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors who served in the war of the rebellion, who are disabled by age, disease, or otherwise, and by reason of such disability are incapable of earning a living, shall be admitted into the Home

In connection with this bill the committee presented the following memorial to Congress: | man who spent any length of time wintever in A memorial to the Senate and House of Repre- a rebel prison has from that day on experi-Your memorialists would respectfully urge that the necessity for the establishment of a soldiers' loyalty they exhibited entitle them to the

home west of the Mississippi for disabled soldiers and sailors who served in the war of the rebellion, who, by reason of old age, sickness, or otherwise, elected officers: Commander, Wm. E. Taylor; are incapable of carning a living, is, we take it, an Recognizing this necessity, the National Encamp-

ment of the Grand Army of the Republic, at its seventeenth session, held at Denver, Colo., July, 1883, adopted, on motion of a comrade from the "That a committee of five members of this En-

campment be appointed to present to the next Congress of the United States the necessity and tice of establishing a soldiers' home west of the Mississippi." In pursuance of said resolution your memorialists were appointed such committee, and have

ity, but in the interest alone of those whom it is intended to benefit in the great States of Arkan-521 by transfer, and 1,440 by reinstatement. Estey (re-elected); Surgeon, L. M. Cary (re- and Nebraska, having within their borders to-day sas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, diers and sailors who served their country well in the war of the rebellion, many of whom, by reason of age or sickness, are unable to earn a living. a government; whether or not the experiment. Thus conditioned, and in poverty, they must find of free government on this continent should shelter, food and raiment in a home provided as an act of justice, not charity, by the Government they fought to save, or become inmates of the poor-house, and through its windows look out D. H. Holman: Commander, Samuel Pettin-gill; S. V. C., L. K. Litchfield; J. V. C., Jesse have been impossible to the Government which leaves them to starve or become the common ob-

> "I once was young," says the Psalmist "but now I am old; but never have I seen the righteous May this Nation never become so old or forgetul of its duty as to permit one of the last of these, its veterans, to beg his bread. Your memorialists have only one object, and that is to secure the speedy erection of a commodious and suitable home at some convenient point

of managers of the Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, and believe that their selection of a locatien, under the bill, will be a wise one. Your memorialists trust that no member of Congress will antagonize this measure, which is just, thority under him, and by all men who urged

in one of the States named in this bill.

may prefer to name the locality of the home in his district or State. This bill also provides for the admission into the ome of all destitute (honorably discharged) solof age, siekness, or otherwise, are rendered incapable of earning a living, whether their disabilities can be traced to their service or not. This is in R. C. Benton; Adj't, & C. Gant; Q. M., J. A. | Lies can be traced to their service or not. This is in accordance with the oft-repeated recommendations. Sheets; Surgeon, W. W. More; Chaplain, J. A. | of the board of managers of the National Home Davis; O. D., Levi Holland; O. G., Robert for Disabled Volunteer Soidiers, and, in their lan- broken in health, through wounds or disease,

> The board, in their report for 1883, say: "There is a steady increase of the number of members number will attain its maximum for some time to

General Patrick, governor of the central branch, in his report of July 1, 1883, says: "During the last winter the number of our members present rose to 4,015—the highest number ever reached—making it necessary for large numbers of men to sleep on the floors, and crowding the barracks much beyond their capacity, interfering with both ventilaion and comfort. From present indications we shall be much more crowded in time to come."
In conclusion, he says: "Judging from past experionce, especially of the last three years, the rastantly before us is, how shall the demand be met?
Alrealy we have been crowded to the utmost of our capacity, as I have already stated. By far the many years be distributed in the payment of penfor some years to come; and the question con-

they enter the home.
"Many of those who have hitherto taken care of themselves, with little aid from others, are now compelled to apply for admission; others still, who

and at once. No nation, with millions of surplus revenue in its treasury, can afford to let its veterans, who rendered that surplus revenue possible, starve! The justice, wisdom, and immediate necessity of the passage of this bill must be apparent to every member of Congress.

Words of praise and commendation for these destitute soldiers, "Words that are the children of

I. H. Armstrong; Q. M., Harvey Jackson; Adj't, R. V. Sands; Chaplain, T. J. Alverson; Surgeon, Dr. H. S. Woods; O. D., P. S. Brunner; O. G., Owen Quisenbery; S. M., Theodore civil war deserve all and more than is asked in this bill. Let your appreciation of their services (when strong of body and patriotic of spirit) be shown by your deeds, "deeds that are the daughters of the soul."

Adjutant-General of Comrade Thomas L. Mat- attention. They believe that all that is necessar to secure the passage of this bill is to call your at-

To this end, your memorialists will ever pray. Signed: Wm. Warner, Theo. Wiseman, H. E. Palmer, John Lindt, Albion P. Pease, committee. The members of the committee, having completed their mission at the capital, left for Philadelphia towards the close of last week to

A PATRIOTIC LETTER.

A Kansas Congressman's Views on Pending Pension Legislation. To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

Press of business has prevented my answering your letter of laquiry of the lith alt. I

You ask, first: "What is your opinion of the merits of the proposition to equalize bounties by the payment to every honorably discharged Union soldier of eight and one-third dollars for each and every month of actual service. less the amount of Government bounty he may have received?"

I answer that I am clearly of the opinion that the Government has too long delayed the performance of a duty devolved upon it by its promise made more than twenty years ago, and doubly made when it passed what was a pretended bounty act. There can be no argument which will maintain itself for a single moment to the effect that one soldier shall have three hundred dollars, and another soldier, who in all probability performed a great deal more of service, shall have only two hundred dollars. I do not think the present Congress will do what in duty bound it ought But I have no doubt the time is speedily coming when there will be such a majority in the House and in the Senate, composed of men who have not ceased to remember the service rendered by the enlisted men of the country, as will impel them to give their vote in favor have performed a great service for their country, and who have as yet failed to receive their

ARREARS OF PENSIONS. You ask, second: "What is your opinion of the merits of the proposition to amend the arrears of pension act by removing the limitation as to time of filing claims?

To this I reply: There can be but one conclusion arrived at; and that is, all men who incurred disease in the line of their duty in the service of their country are entitled to an equal and a like consideration. No statute of limitation ought to be permitted to run against them, because in many instances a failure to file a claim was due to the pride of the soldler, who felt that it might be misunderstood and misinterpreted if he should ask any aid at the hands of the Government. Of course, in this he was wrong, because the Government promised when its ranks were being filled up that all men, if disease should wreck their constitutions, or if they should suder by reason of wounds incurred in defense of their country, that they and their families should be cared Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre- for; and this promise and pledge will last with account, and until his children and his children's children shall be no more. I am, therewho has suffered for his country.

THE EX-PRISONERS' BILL.

You ask, third: "What is your opinion of the merits of the proposition to pension ex-Union prisoners of war on the basis of length of confinement, and without requiring proof of disability?"

In reply I have to say that I believe it to be but just and right that special legislation should be had in behalf of this class, because all men who were in the army know that by reason of the want of care and attention upon the part of rebel anthorities, as well also as by reason of a desire upon the part of the rebel authorities to cripple and in effect destroy the power of the men who were prisoners in their hands to again enter the army, the men who, unfortunately, were captured were exposed to privations and disease horrible in the extreme. And I think it may go without saying that uo loyalty they exhibited entitle them to the highest possible consideration at the hands of the Government and of the people, and so I would very gladly vote for any measure which would grant them a pension, based upon the fact that they had been in the prison-pens of

the South. You ask, fourth: "What is your opinion of the merits of the proposition to pension all persons, who, having enlisted in the regular or volunteer army of the Union in any war waged with the United States, served three months, were honorably discharged, and are unable, by reason of disablity, to earn their subsistence and are dependent upon their own labor for

their support?" I think, in answer to this question, that that government is always the strongest that is willing and able to take care of the men who have defended its flag and its honor. More particularly do I think so when the question to be settled was whether or not we should have of free government on this continent should fail or become an assured success.

SERVICE PENSIONS You ask, fifth: "What is your opinion of the merits of the proposition to pension all ex-soldiers and sailors of the late war who served thirty days, or were in any engagement therein, and the widows of all soldiers who are

deceased?" I answer that I am emphatically in favor of such a law, and believe it will be to the best interests of the country to have such a law passed, because it is but fulfilling a pledge made to every soldier and his family at the commencement and all through the terrible They have full faith and confidence in the board struggle for the preservation of the country. I recall now, and most vividly, the positive pledge given by the President, the lamented Lincoln, and by all those in auas well as one of pressing necessity, because he | the filling up of the ranks, and by all interests the future prosperity of which depended upon the success of the effort made for the preservation of the country-I say, I recall it now as having been made upon the broad basis that if the men would go into the service and help maintain the national Government, and they should fall, these depending upon them should be cared for, and if they came home a grateful country would throw around them its loving arms and make them easy for the ritory named in this bill, and are so crowded that rest of their lives. That pledge was solemnly they could not receive our disabled comrades if | made and as solemnly accepted, and the Goverument will not have done its duty until it shall have fulfilled its part.

I think there is another reason why early legislation should be had in this matter. The country is prosperous; it has a large revenue, and is really burdened with the question as to what disposition shall be made of that revenue. Men of high character in the councils of the Nation have recommended this plan and that plan. It has been suggested by some that the surplus revenue shall go towards developing the educational resources of the country, and by others that it should be divided among the States in the form of an allowance for taxes. io of increase in members will continue to grow In my judgment, both of these plans sink into largest proportion of those who now apply for ad- | sions to its defenders in the war of the rebellion. ission are well advanced in years, many of them I know of no better way to settle the question requiring hospital accommodation from the time of panies in financial circles and to prevent a contraction of the circulating medium of the country than that of paying out every ninety days twenty-five millions of money to be cirhave been more largely dependent upon their families, find their families breaking up by death or otherwise, and seek a refuge here. Their claims cannot be ignored, but how can they be met?"

Their demands must be met. Justice, duty, and to be by the occupants of those homes distributed to be by the occupants of those homes distributed. even humanity demand that they should be met | in the various lines of life by which they are surrounded. By this act the Government will protect itself and bring happiness and a feeling of increased loyalty to those who have in former years given their best endeavor to the perpetuation of the laws and of the liberties of

the country. I have thus hastily given you my views upon this question. In the main I believe them to be correct and founded on sound policy. To sum it all up, I am in favor of the Government doing everything within its power to render the last days of those who were its defenders in the hour of its need their happiest,

their brightest, their most peaceful. I am, very truly, your obedient servant, LEWIS HANBACK. WASHINGTON, February 6, 1884.